



PRESS RELEASE

Lake County Library Services P.O. Box 7800 315 W. Main Street Tavares, FL 32778-7800

For immediate release

Date: April 5, 2004
Contact: Judy Buckland
Phone: (352) 253-6167

Lake County Library System Festival of Reading

The Lake County Library System will present the Festival of Reading, a week long celebration. The series of events will take place during National Library Week April 17-24, 2004. The mission is to offer residents a first class literary arts experience and to showcase the services of the Lake County Library System and the programs and collections of the individual libraries. 12 Member and Branch libraries are hosting authors, musicians, poets, and storytellers to delight audiences with their readings and performances. There will be opportunities to celebrate the joys of reading whether a beginning or a lifelong reader.

The kick off event will be held in Donnelly Park, downtown Mount Dora on April 17th from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Featured performances will include popular children's author Matt Whitlock and the Mount Dora Children's Theatre with excerpts from *Mollie and the Last Bookworm* written especially for National Library Week. The Dickens Reader's Theater Group will present *Sudden Fiction- Strange Moments in Real Time*, a selection of contemporary short stories about everyday people caught up in unusual circumstances. Also appearing are the Lake Mount Steppers and the Swamp Time Boogie performers with author Larry Peddrick. At 2 p.m. Judy Gail, storyteller and balladeer will present *Hallelujah I'm A Bum! Songs and stories of Work and Labor*. Ms. Gail will take you on a journey of work and labor in story and song from the Stone Age to the Technological Age, as machines and technology replace human beings and end work as we know it. Ms. Gail's appearance is sponsored by the *Florida Humanities Council, Speaker's Bureau*.

The Lake County Library System Children's Librarians will offer free *make it and take it* crafts throughout the day. The Lake County School Readiness Coalition, Inc. will be there with THE BIG BLUE BUS, an exciting resource for the parents. For information please call 352-253-6167.